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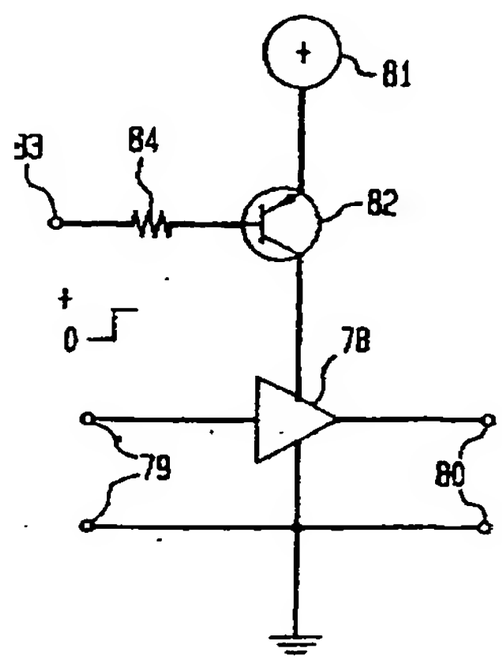
(54) Power consumption control method and apparatus for a communication system subscriber unit

(57) A subscriber unit of a time division multiple access (TDMA) radiotelephone system is, from a power consumption standpoint, reconfigured in each time slot of a TDMA frame to a power consumption tessellation in which subscriber unit circuit components not needed for communication signal processing in that time slot are powered down, and other components are powered up.

Some circuit components are powered down by switching their power supply circuits. In order to minimize the extent of circuitry that must be provided to distribute power consumption control signals, other techniques (which utilize circuitry provided for other purposes), such as clock frequency control or power down commands, also are utilized to modify controlled circuit component power consumption without actually controlling power supply circuits. Loop connection length between the subscriber unit and the subscriber's telephone set, or other terminal equipment, is limited to a length which is much less than the length of a radio link on which the subscriber unit operates. Programmable ring frequency logic controls the frequency of a ringing signal generator, and a high frequency ring control signal is switched on and off in the cadence of ringing operation. Also an expansion header is provided to enable serving plural subscriber loop circuits with the same radio equipment for reducing per line power consumption.

FIG. 3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 12 0210

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TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)

H04B
H04M
H04Q

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
MUNICH	24 April 2002	Kolbe, W

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